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Page: \_\_\_\_\_

## Unclaimed property list on way

The general treasurer's annual listing will be available tomorrow in newspaper inserts and online.

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

There are about 24,000 people who have some sort of unclaimed property currently being held by the state. To see if you are one of them, check the new unclaimed-property list in two advertising inserts that will appear in every edition of The Providence Journal tomorrow and in local newspapers beginning next week.

General Treasurer Frank Caprio said the state is holding about \$150 million in unclaimed property, \$28 million of which has been added in the last year. The property consists of money from a range of sources including: inactive financial accounts, payroll checks,

## Property

*Continued from Page E1*

stocks and dividends, safe deposit boxes, life insurance policies, customer deposits or overpayments, utility deposits and certificates of deposit that have been left unclaimed despite attempts to contact the owners.

The annual publication of the list generates a wave of requests for information to the general

treasurer's office, with hundreds of phone calls and thousands of e-mails expected each day for the next several weeks.

"As general treasurer, one of my most important responsibilities is to find people whose names appear on the unclaimed-property list and reunite them with their money in a customer-friendly way," said Caprio. "The publication of the list marks the beginning of our push to correctly identify people who have unclaimed property in the system and get them their money ...."

The entire list can be found online at [www.treasury.state.ri.us](http://www.treasury.state.ri.us)

Simply follow the "search unclaimed property" link and type your last name or business name to see if it appears on the list.

If it does, you will be prompted to enter current contact informa-

tion and will receive a claim form in the mail from the office of the general treasurer with instructions on how to claim your property. Caprio said the process is conducted through the mail for privacy purposes and as one safeguard to ensure that the correct claimant is receiving the funds.

Caprio urged citizens to take advantage of this free service. He noted that there are some organizations, known as "heir finders," which will contact members of the public and offer to recover their unclaimed property for a fee. However, Caprio said those organizations provide no additional information or expedited consideration of a claim and it is unnecessary for people to pay a fee for unclaimed property information that is made available free by his office.